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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



March 2016

Release Date: April 1, 2016

Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch
Current Employment Statistics Survey
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, March 2016

Nonfarm employment rose by 215,000 in March. Retail trade, construction, and health care added jobs, while manufacturing and mining lost jobs.

Average hourly earnings of all private sector employees increased by 7 cents, following a 2-cent decline in February. Hourly earnings have risen by 2.3 percent over the year. Average weekly hours, at 34.4 hours, were unchanged over the month.

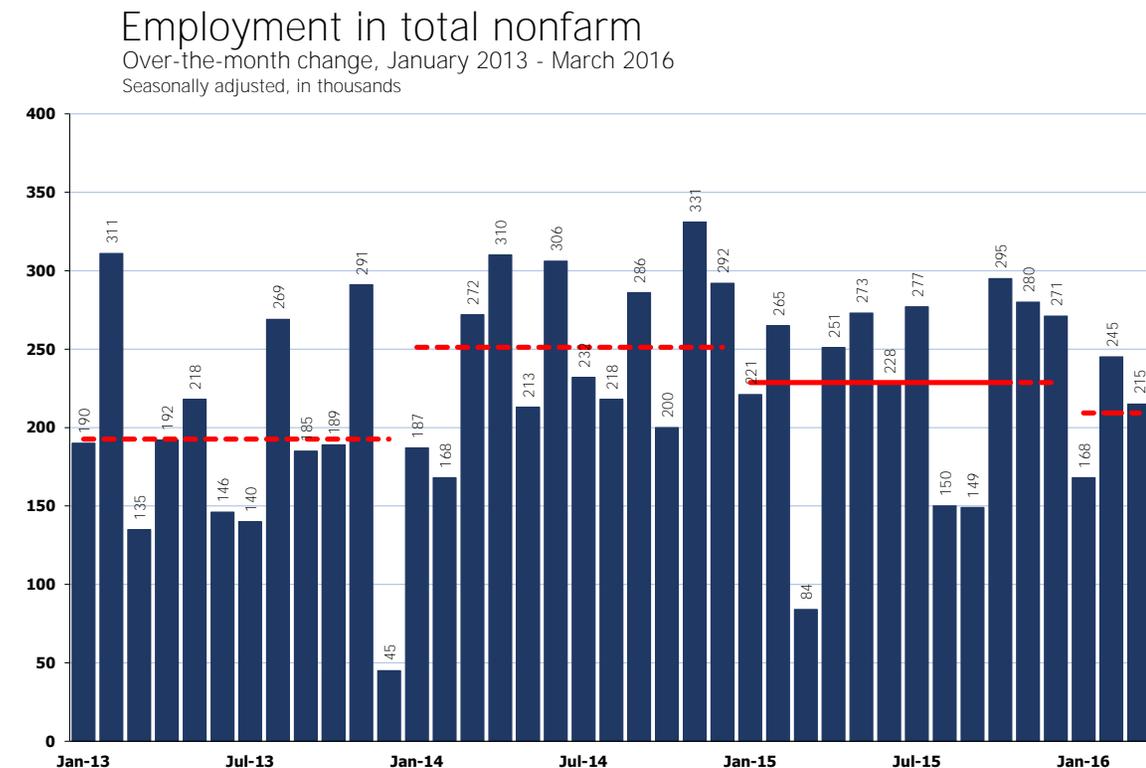
The employment change for January revised from +172,000 to +168,000. The change for February revised from +242,000 to +245,000. Over the past 3 months, job growth has averaged 209,000 per month.

+51,000 Education and Health Services

In March, employment rose by 37,000 in health care. Ambulatory health care added 27,000 jobs, and hospitals added 10,000 jobs. Over the year, health care has added 503,000 jobs.

+48,000 Retail Trade

Retail trade added 48,000 jobs in March. General merchandise stores, health and personal care stores, building material and garden supply stores, and auto dealers added jobs. Over the past 12 months, retail trade has added 378,000 jobs.



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, April 01, 2016.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

+37,000 Construction

Construction employment rose by 37,000 over the month. Residential specialty trade and heavy construction added 12,000 and 11,000 jobs, respectively. Over the past 12 months, construction has added 301,000 jobs.

+40,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in March. Over the year, the industry has added 472,000 jobs; food services and drinking places accounted for nearly 80 percent of this gain.

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, March 2016

+33,000 Professional and Business Services

Employment changed little in professional and business services during March. Services to buildings and dwellings added 13,000 jobs. Thus far in 2016, employment in professional and business services has changed little, averaging an increase of 20,000 jobs per month, compared to gains averaging 52,000 per month in 2015.

+20,000 Government

Government employment changed little in March. Over the past 12 months, employment in the sector is up by 121,000, with most of the increase coming from local government excluding education (+88,000).

+15,000 Financial Activities

Over the month, employment continued to edge up in financial activities. Credit intermediation and related activities added 9,000 jobs in March, with commercial banking accounting for 5,000 of the increase.

-29,000 Manufacturing

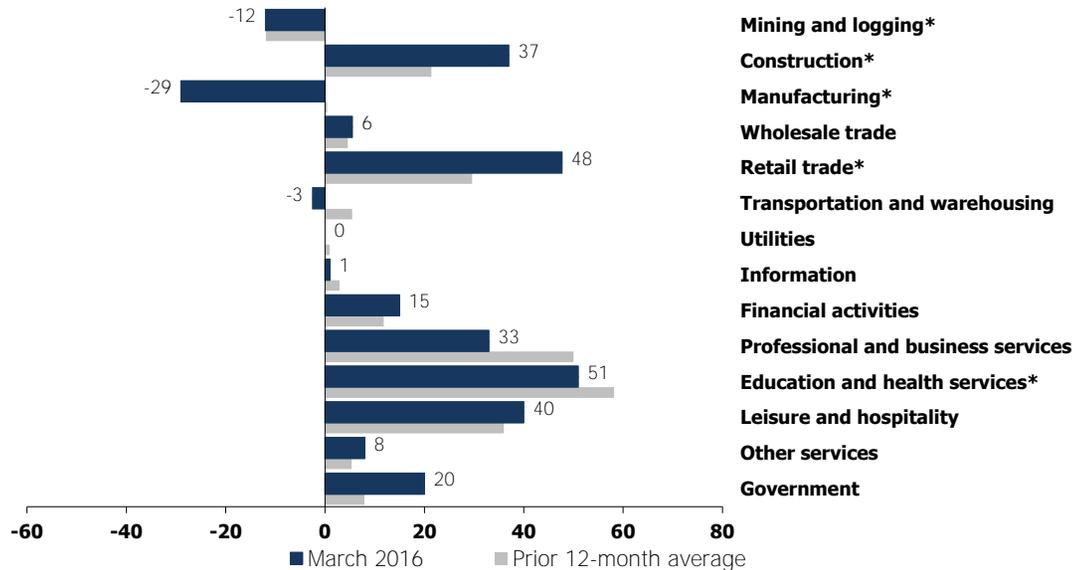
In March, employment decreased by 29,000 in manufacturing. Durable goods industries accounted for 24,000 jobs lost, including declines in machinery, computer and

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, March 2016

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
215*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, April 01, 2016.
Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance.

electronic products, and primary metals. Since reaching an employment peak in March 2015, durable goods manufacturers have cut 68,000 jobs.

-12,000 Mining and Logging

Mining continued to lose jobs in March (-12,000). Since last reaching a peak in

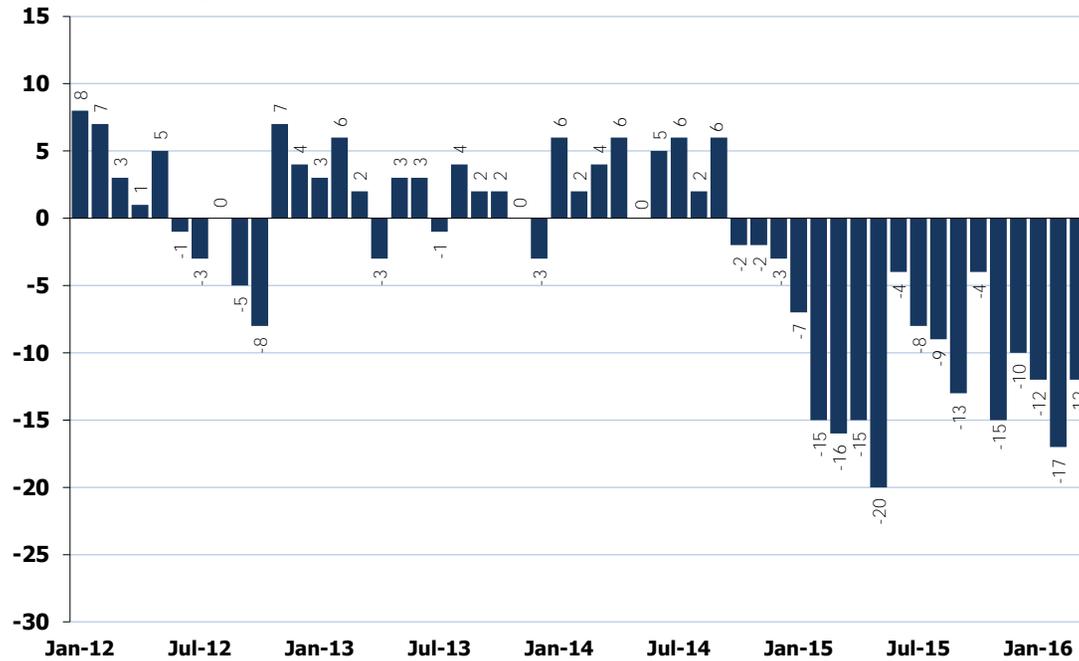
September 2014, employment in the industry has decreased by 184,000 or 20.4 percent. Support activities for mining accounted for 145,000 of the declines during this period, including a loss of 10,000 jobs in March.

Mining & Logging

Employment in mining and logging

Over-the-month change, January 2012–March 2016

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, April 01, 2016.

Employment in mining and logging declined by 12,000 in March.

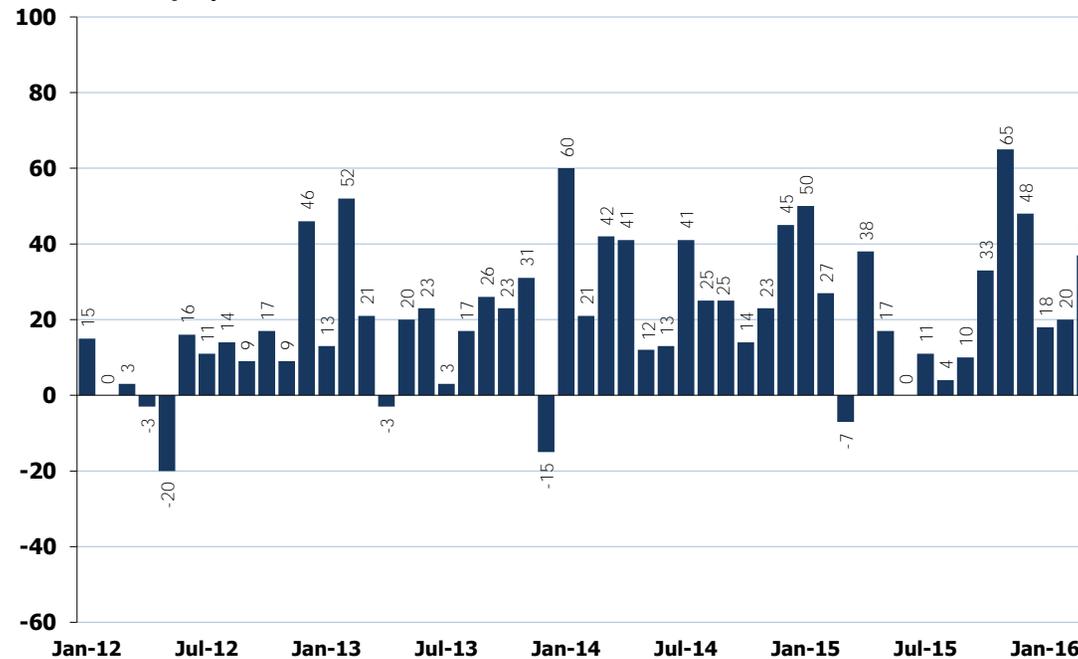
Most of the loss can be attributed to support activities for mining, which lost 10,000 jobs over the month.

Construction

Employment in construction

Over-the-month change, January 2012–March 2016

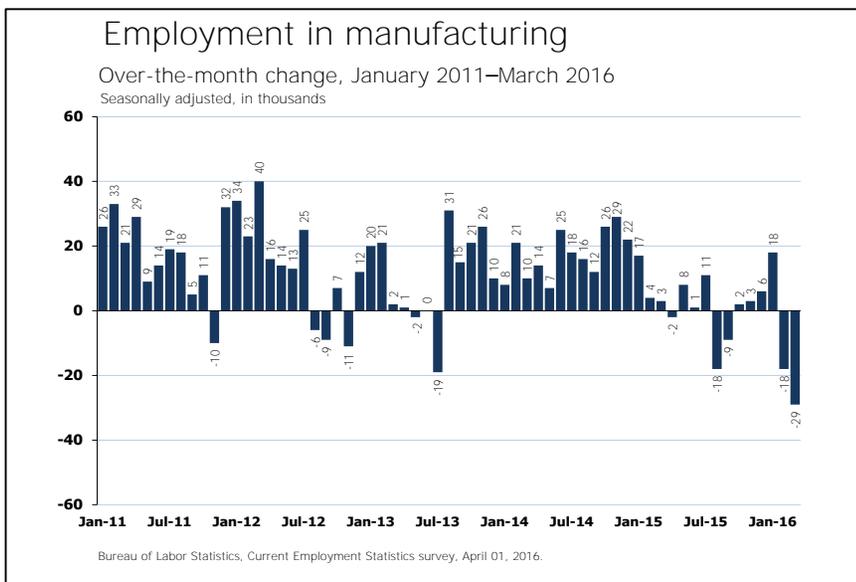
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, April 01, 2016.

Construction added 37,000 jobs in March. Heavy and civil engineering construction added 11,000 jobs. Within specialty trade contractors, residential specialty trade contractors continued to add jobs (+12,000).

Manufacturing

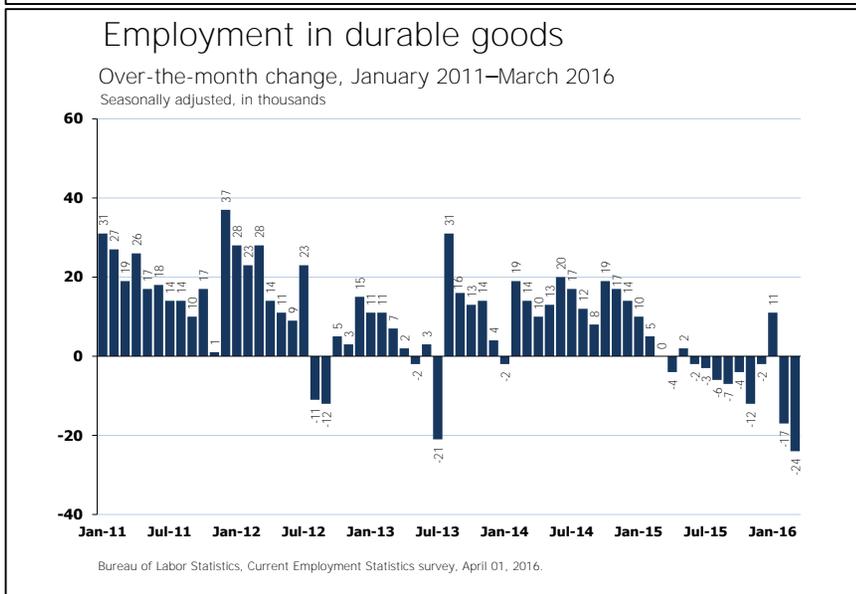


Manufacturing lost 29,000 jobs in March. Nearly all of the job losses occurred in durable goods, while nondurable goods employment changed little (-5,000).

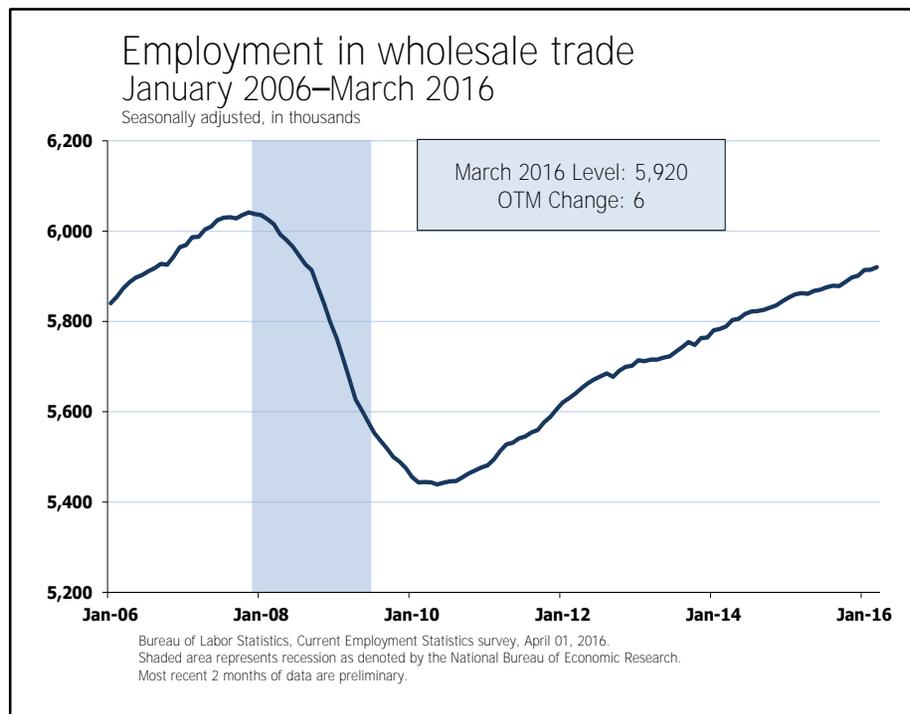
The one-month manufacturing diffusion index declined to 37.3, the lowest since January 2010. The diffusion index measures the dispersion of employment change in manufacturing, with a value below 50 indicating that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than adding.

Average weekly hours in manufacturing declined 0.1 hour for all employees and was unchanged for production employees. Over the past 12 months, average weekly hours have declined 0.3 hour for all employees and have not changed for production employees (-0.1 hour).

In March, durable goods lost 24,000 jobs, with significant losses in primary metals (-3,000), machinery (-7,000), and semiconductors (-3,000). Durable goods employment reached a recent peak in March 2015 and, since then, has declined by 68,000, led by losses in machinery (-46,000), fabricated metal products (-36,000), and primary metals (-22,000).

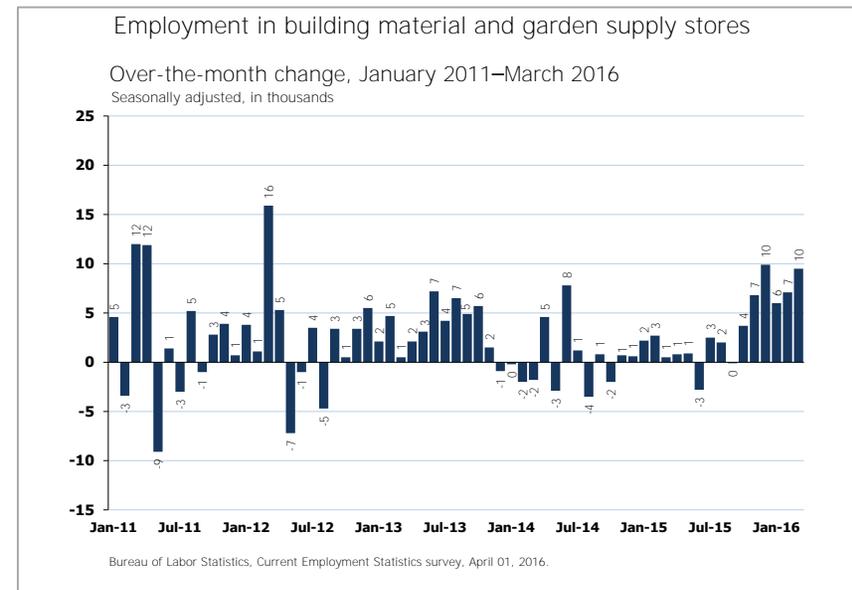
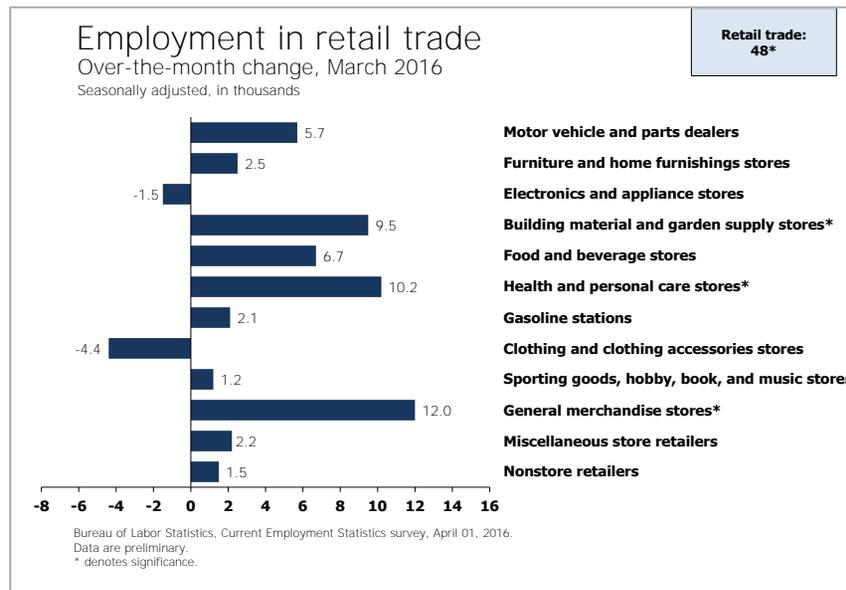


Wholesale Trade



Employment in wholesale trade changed little in March (+6,000). Over the past 12 months, the industry has added 58,000 jobs.

Retail Trade



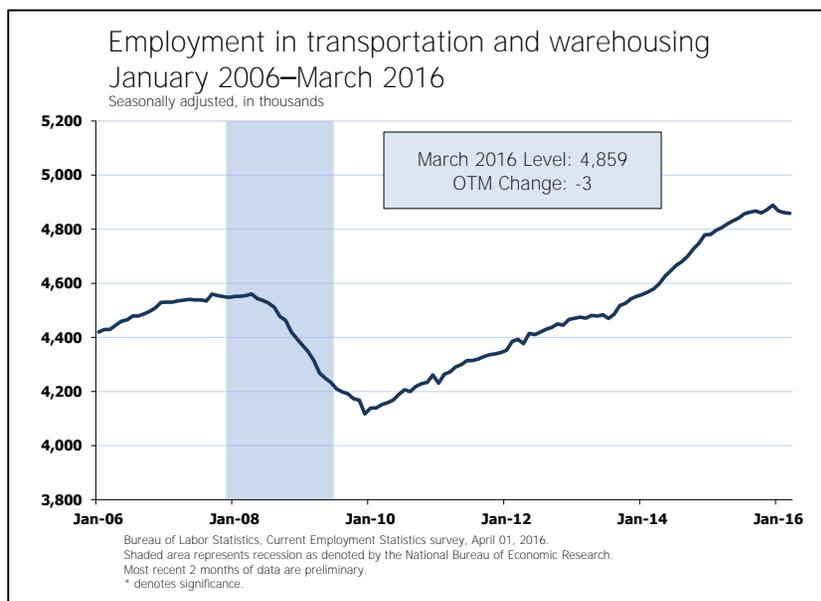
In March, employment in retail trade grew by 48,000, bringing the total growth in 2016 to 181,000. Employment in most of the component industries trended upward, led by growth in general merchandise stores, health and personal care stores, and building materials and garden supplies stores.

Continuing its upward trend, employment in building materials and garden supplies stores increased by 10,000 in March. During the past 6 months, this industry has added 43,000 jobs.

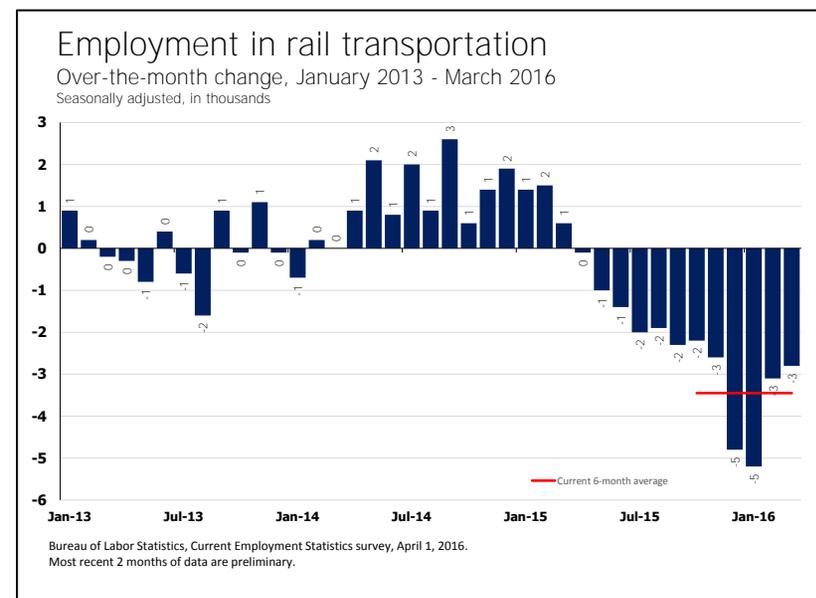
After essentially no net job growth over the prior 12 months, employment in health and personal care stores grew by 10,000 in March.

Employment in general merchandise stores grew by 12,000 over the month. This industry has added 41,000 jobs over the past 6 months with all of the growth occurring in other general merchandise stores, such as warehouse clubs and dollar stores.

Transportation and Warehousing



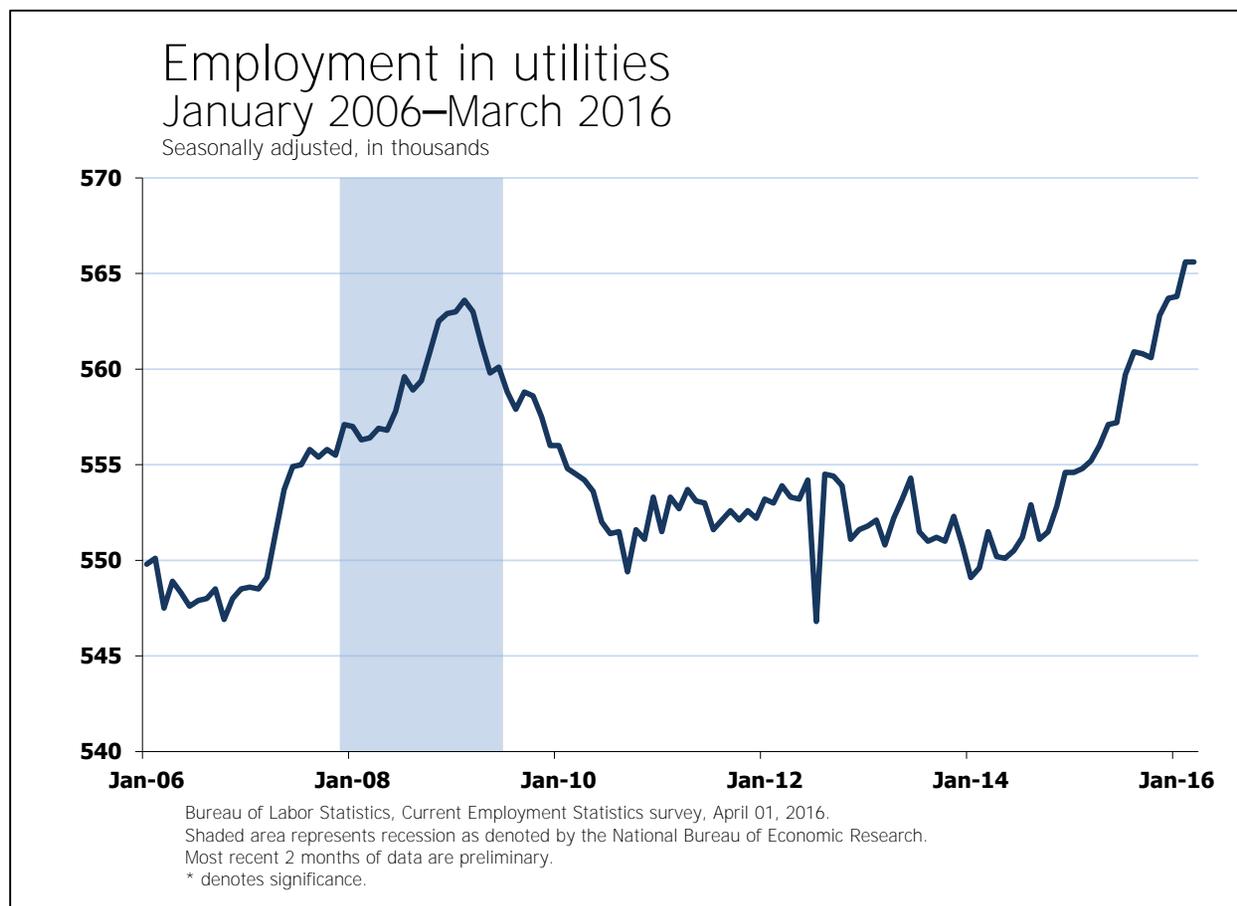
Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in March (-3,000). Over the year, however, the industry has added 53,000 jobs.



Rail transportation shed 3,000 jobs in March, marking the 12th consecutive month of job losses. Over the year, employment in rail transportation has declined by 29,000, or 11.9 percent.

Utilities

Employment in utilities was unchanged in March.

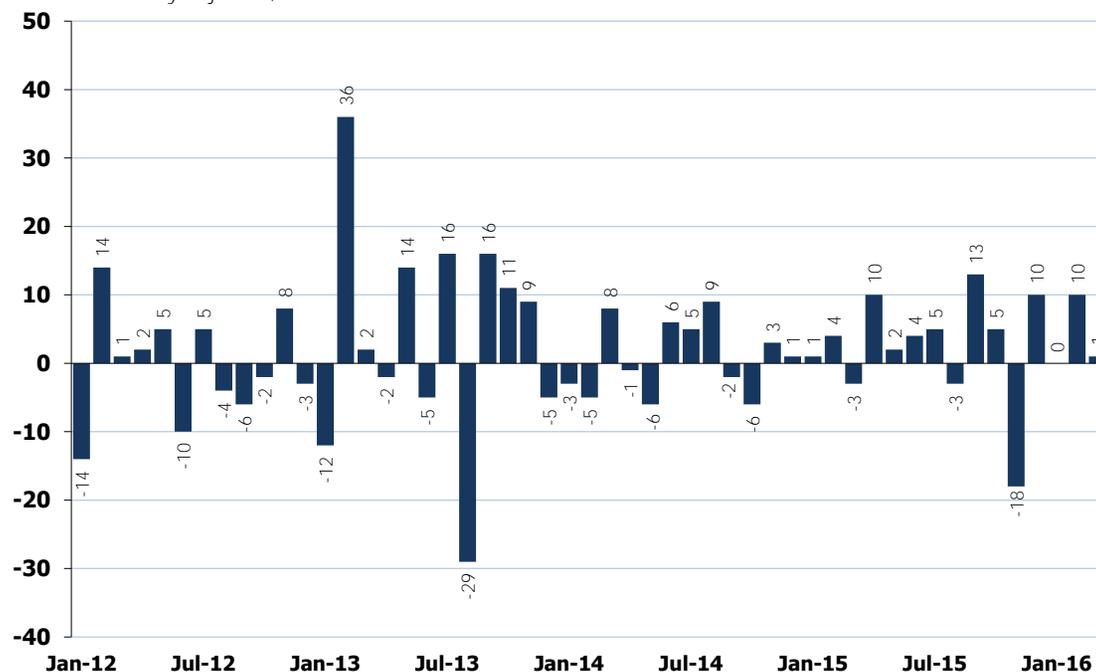


Information

Employment in information

Over-the-month change, January 2012–March 2016

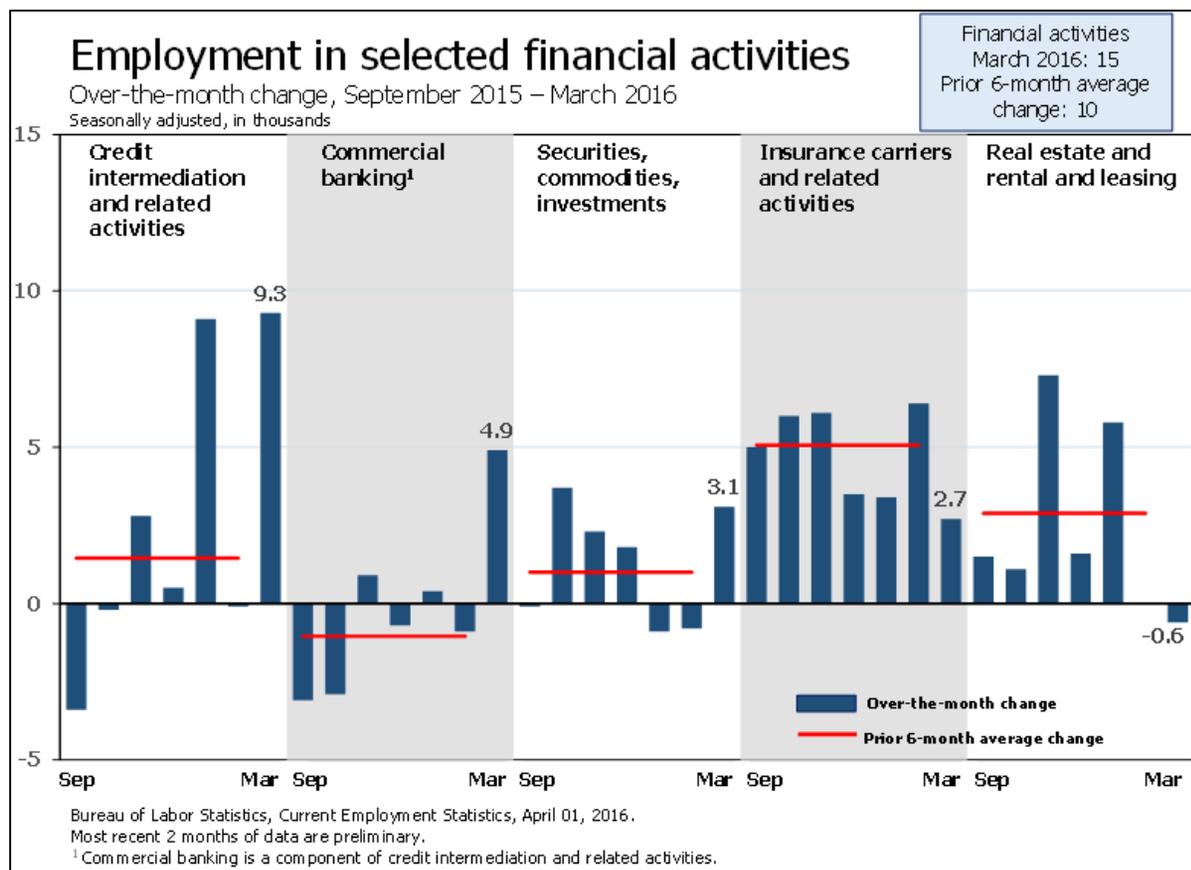
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, April 01, 2016.

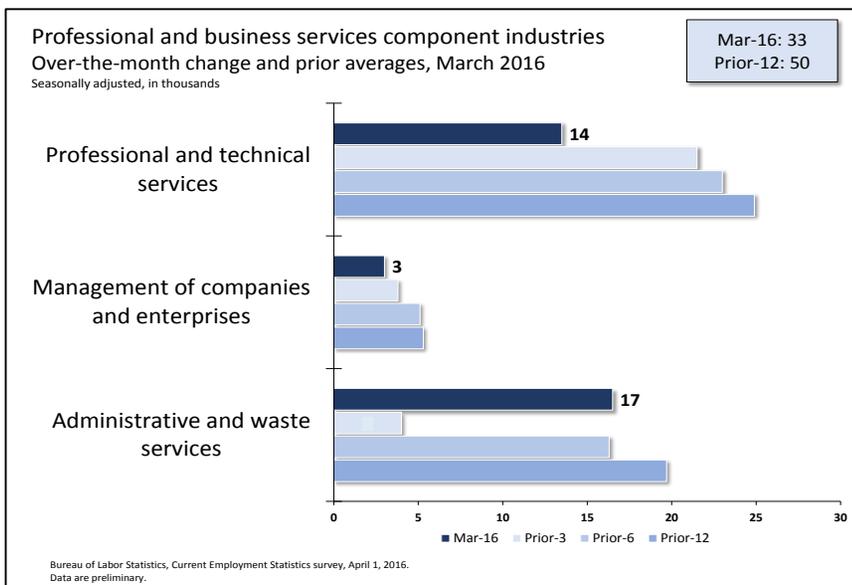
Information employment was essentially unchanged in March (+1,000). Over the last 12 months, employment in this industry has edged up 39,000.

Financial Activities



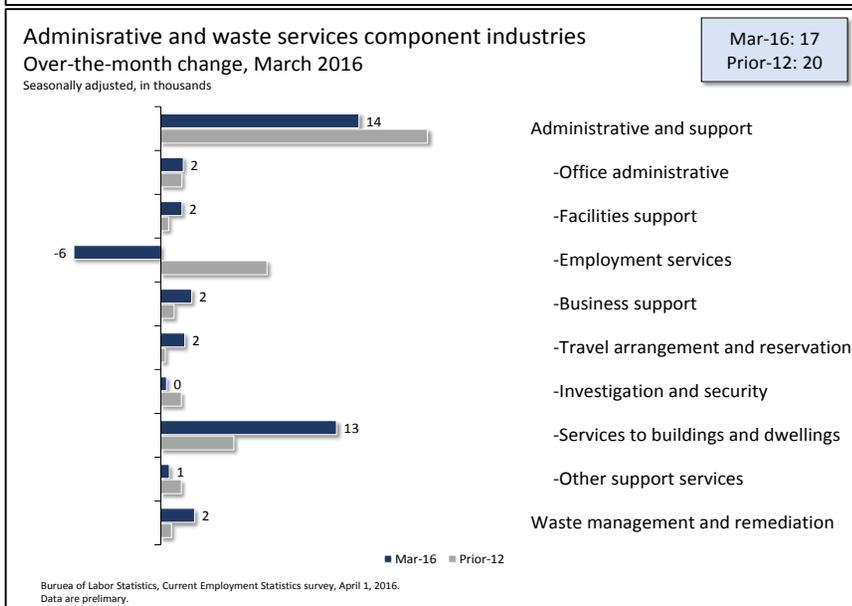
Financial activities employment continued its upward trend in March (+15,000). Among the component industries, credit intermediation and related activities gained 9,000 jobs, about 5,000 of which were in commercial banking. So far this year, credit intermediation and related activities has added 18,000 jobs, the most among the major components within financial activities.

Professional and Business Services

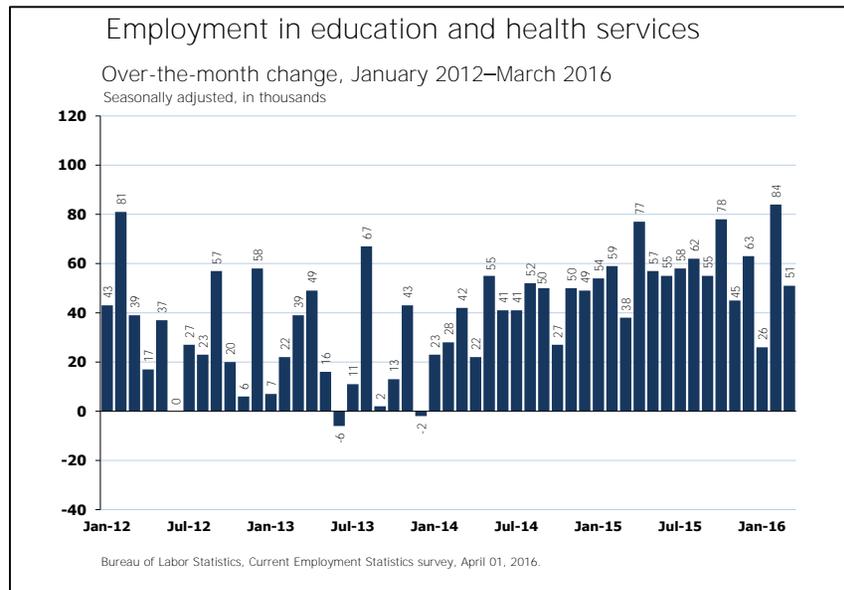


Professional and business services employment changed little in March (+33,000), weaker than the industry's prior-12 month average monthly change.

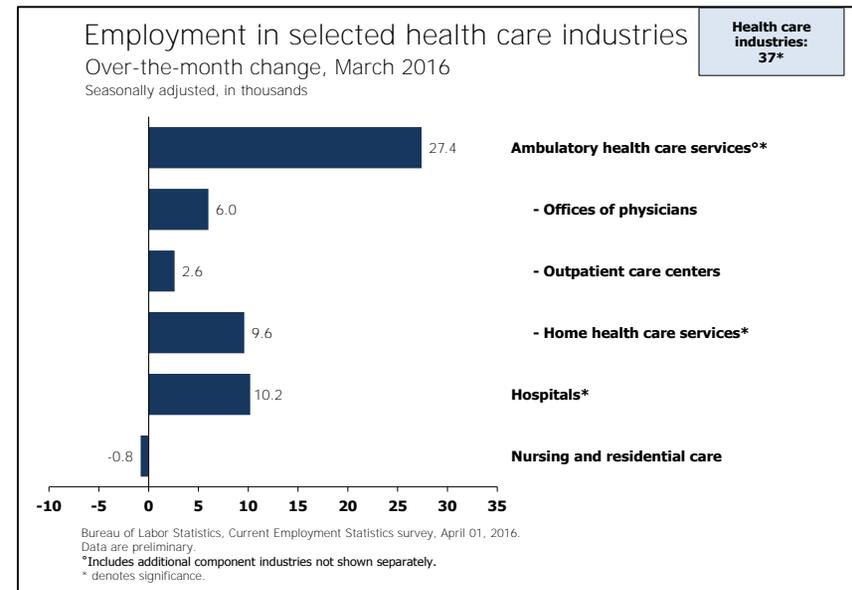
The March employment movement was split between administrative and waste services (+17,000) and professional and technical services (+14,000). Among the professional and technical services component industries, employment in management and technical consulting services continued to trend up (+7,000). Within administrative and waste services, services to building and dwellings added 13,000 jobs, while employment remained essentially unchanged in temporary help services (+4,000).



Private Education and Health Services



Employment in education and health services increased by 51,000 in March. Within the industry, health care added 37,000 jobs over the month, while employment in private educational services (+7,000) and in social assistance (+7,000) continued to trend up.



Ambulatory health care added 27,000 jobs in March, with home health care services adding 10,000. Employment in the industry has increased by 85,000 over the last 12 months, and the industry has accounted for 30 percent of the jobs gained in ambulatory health care services over the past year.

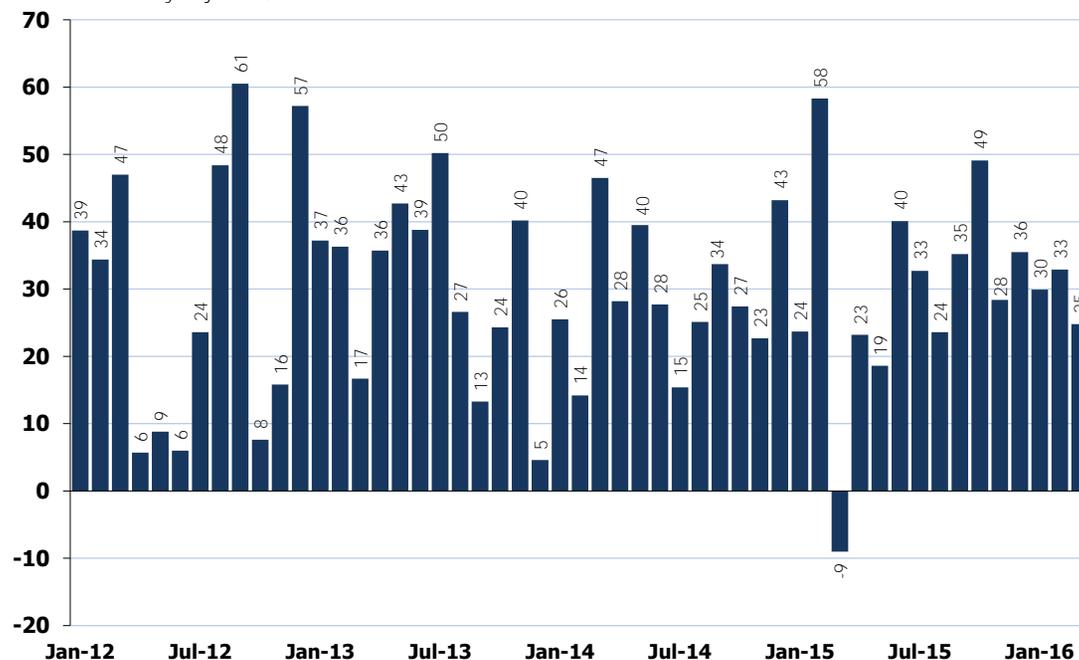
Hospital employment continued to grow in March, adding 10,000 jobs. In the last 12 months, employment in the industry has increased by 183,000, accounting for about 36 percent of the job gain in health care over the same period.

Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in food services and drinking places

Over-the-month change, January 2012–March 2016

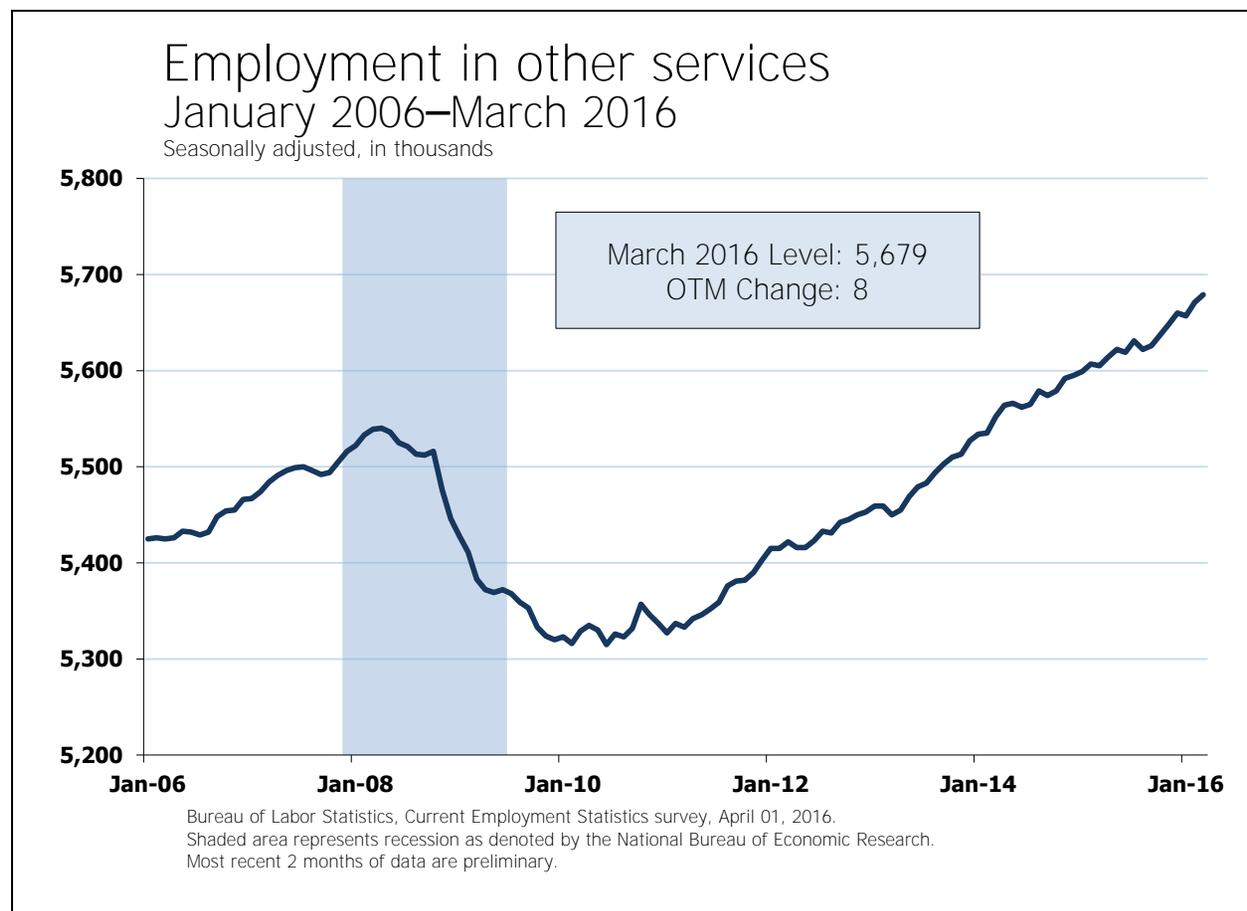
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, April 01, 2016.

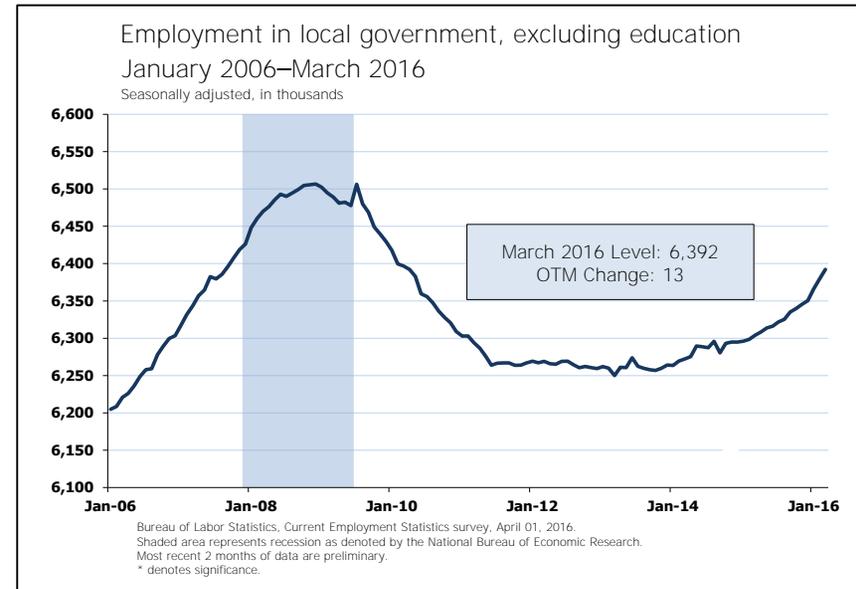
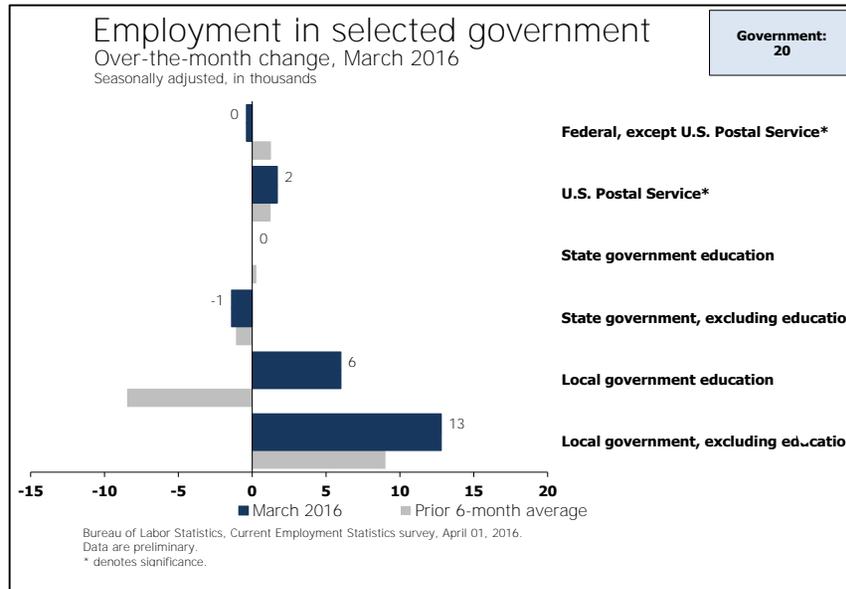
Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in March (+40,000). Food services and drinking places employment also continued to trend up (+25,000). Over the last year, food services has gained 374,000 jobs, accounting for almost 80 percent of net growth in leisure and hospitality during the same period.

Other Services



Employment in other services changed little in March (+8,000). Over the year, other services added 74,000 jobs, with personal and laundry services accounting for 47 percent of the increase.

Government



Government employment changed little in March (+20,000) and has increased by 121,000 over the last 12 months. Local government, excluding education accounts for 73 percent of the employment gain in total government over the past year. Over the same period, the federal government added 23,000 jobs and state government employment changed little (+6,000).



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